



Arizona Department of Public Safety

- For Immediate Release -

Thursday, August 14, 2008

**** UPDATE ****

Arizona Department of Public Safety investigates fatal collision involving a bicyclist and semi-truck *BICYCLIST IDENTIFIED*

Investigating Officer's from the Arizona Department of Public Safety identified the bicyclist fatally injured yesterday, on I-10 at milepost 199 as Charles Fincher, age 50, resident of Douglasville, Georgia.

Fincher was visiting family in California and was scheduled to return to Georgia this coming Saturday, August 16th. It is unclear as to why Fincher was in the Casa Grande area. Fincher was driving his Father's van which became disabled in Casa Grande

***** The following is the original press release *****

The preliminary information on this collision is this:

A bicyclist was traveling eastbound on I-10 on the emergency shoulder in the area of milepost 199 (roughly ten miles from Picacho Peak). A Commercial tractor-trailer was traveling eastbound in the right lane in the area; the driver saw the bicyclist and began to change lanes to the left. For an unknown reason the bicyclist veered from the emergency shoulder crossing the right lane and entering the left lane and into the path of the tractor-trailer. After colliding with the bicyclist the tractor trailer traveled into the median, then back up onto the roadway before stopping on the emergency shoulder. An Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS) Officer traveling in the area came upon the collision scene at about 9:37 a.m. before emergency calls had been received by our DPS Communications Center in Tucson. The Bicyclist was pronounced dead on the scene upon the arrival of Emergency Medical personnel.

I-10 eastbound was closed off and diverted onto I-8 westbound then back to I-10 via Trekkle road. The roadway was closed from about 10:00 a.m. and re-opened at about 11:56 a.m. This caused some traffic delays and back-up during this time. The roadway was closed in order for DPS Investigators to complete their on-scene investigation. DPS Investigators are still attempting to notify the victim's next of kin. No enforcement action has been taken at this time. The collision is still under active investigation.

Press Inquiries: rbailey@azdps.gov

PO BOX 6638 | Phoenix, AZ 85005-6638 | www.azdps.gov | pio@azdps.gov